GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2873
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2005
MODERNISATION OF TINDHARIA WORKSHOP
Narbula Shri Dawa

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Darjeeling Himlayan Railways and its workshop at Tindharia are presently in deplorable conditions;

(b) if so, the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard ;

(c) whether the Government proposes to modernize the Tindharia workshop;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons, therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) and its workshop are in need of inputs for improvement of locomotives and coaches.

(b) The Railway Board has decided to create an independent management unit for DHR under a senior officer at Kurseong. An officer has been identified and is being posted at Kurseong by General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway in terms of this decision of the Railway Board. Also, a Heritage Directorate for the World Heritage considerations has already been created in the Railway Board. Air brakes have been provided on one Rake of coaches of DHR and shall be progressively extended to other coaches. One Narrow Gauge wheel lathe has been sanctioned for Tindharia Workshop on replacement account at the cost of Rupees Three crores.

(c) No, Sir. Original heritage character of workshop shall be maintained.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The authenticity and integrity of the workshop is proposed to be maintained in view of its World Heritage status. However, technical inputs for upgradation of facilities shall be provided in a need based manner from time to time.